

From: Ando Richard [andojrr001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2009 8:30 AM
To:
Cc:
Subject: City Council Public Hearing Testimony, City Council Bill 4, CD1 (09)

Testimony of Ryan Ando

Chair and Members of the City Council
March 18, 2009
City Council Bill 4, CD1 (09)

Chairman Apo and members of the Committee, my name is Ryan Ando.
I am an eighth grade student, and volunteer in community service projects with my school and the Boy Scouts (Troop 49).

I support this bill with amendments, to stop the use of cell phones in vehicles.

We all know that cell phone use and texting by drivers is dangerous. But other communication devices, such as mobile amateur radios, have been safely used in vehicles for a long time.

Amateur or HAM radio operators use mobile amateur radios when they volunteer to help the community, or other services, like medical or civil defense.
Communication services are needed in emergencies, like the Power Blackout of Friday, December 26, 2008, or community events, like the yearly Honolulu Marathon. Many amateur radio operators volunteer with their mobile stations. I am a newly licensed HAM, learning about amateur radio. If current or future mobile amateur radio operators, like me, do not train and test their equipment and radio coverage, we will not be able to help with community activities or emergencies.

I would like to see the City Council add to section (c) The following persons shall be exempt from the provisions of subsection (a):

"(3) Amateur radio operators licensed by the Federal Communications Commission"

These changes to exempt amateur radio operators from City Council Bill 4, CD1 (09) is similar to Washington State's 2007 law that bans cell phone use in vehicles.

I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill and your efforts to stop the use of cell phones in vehicles.

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